

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Claims 287 to 292, 294 to 301 and 303 to 338 are pending in the instant application. Claims 287 to 296 and 302 have been amended and claim 302 has been canceled as requested by Applicant in the correspondence filed 07 July of 2008. Claim 293 has been cancelled and claim 299 has been amended by the Examiner's Amendment attached hereto.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robin L. Teskin on 22 October of 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 293 (Cancelled)

Claim 299. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 298 ~~287~~, wherein said cell is intact or permeabilized.

#### **IN THE ABSTRACT**

Replace the abstract of the disclosure with the following abstract page:

**ABSTRACT**

Functional assays that use the T1R3 receptor to screen for taste modulatory compounds are provided. These assays include cell-based assays and high throughput functional assays that identify compounds which activate or modulate T1R3 receptor activation. Preferred functional assays detect the effect of a putative taste modulatory compound on intracellular voltage or intracellular calcium of a cell that expresses T1R3 polypeptide, preferably in association with a G protein, e.g. Gdl5. The compounds identified in such functional assays potentially have application as taste modulators and potential flavor enhancers or modulators for additives to foods and beverages for human or animal consumption.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John D. Ulm whose telephone number is (571) 272-0880. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00AM to 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Stucker can be reached on (571) 272-0911. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/John D. Ulm/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1649